



NEWS

AND

VIEW

JANUARY
2022

"The March of Time" is a common New Year reflection. In late December I listened to a podcast;* in which the relentlessness of time is described as a prodding enemy over and against the "living in the moments given."

The rhythm of life does seem so brisk that if we slow down, we will miss our opportunities. Certainly, the velocity of our culture and technology lend itself to this perspective. We have to run just to keep current. This make it easy to miss the life right in front of us if we always focus our eyes on the next horizon or obstacle.

In this age, a pandemic age; it seems a time of great distraction, we learn how to adjust, not just to new health regulations: requirements and suggestions and schedules; but also, and perhaps to the good, we learn how to make adjustments. Every bit of progress made involves change. (The same could be said about chaos, I suppose.)

Remember when we thought the vaccine would cure everything. Then we could just get back to "normal." As if "normal" was a great goal. In this era we have once again learned how to adjust. Adjust ourselves for times that change even more rapidly, and in unanticipated ways. Thwarting chaos.

When Jesus describing himself as the good shepherd he spoke "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."-John 10:10. The life he speaks of is true life, life that is life, not merely existence. Nor is it about life of eternal green pastures or of endless horizons of self-accomplishment. It is a life with a purpose: living within and fully in the life God lives with us. A celebration of what is given and who is served. It is in the living of our life for our neighbor that we find this true and abundant life. We practice in family, and church, and move onto community locally and globally. All as part of our identity, our mission as children of God.

Time for some adjustments, now that we are getting good at it. What are we going to do with the time we are given?

Come and See

Peace

Pastor Bill

*The March of Time - Steve McMoyler, KQED's Perspectives





W-ELCA 2022

Community Concerns



Januarys 2022 project is collecting socks and personal hygiene packets for the homeless at Union Gospel Mission Homeless Services . A collection bin is located in the Narthex.

The Annual Christmas Luncheon was celebrated on December 11, 2021 with about 34 ladies & gentlemen present for the celebration. We all enjoyed a delicious meal of homemade soups, Mixed green Salad and/or Caesar Salad, bread, cupcakes and cookies. Faith Thomas provided a Devotional which was followed by a short meeting. Karen Linfor read the Minutes from the November Meeting, Connie Reule provided a Treasurer Report, and the election of the following board members took place: Faith Thomas as Vice-President, Connie Reule as Treasure, and Marlene Kiser as Secretary. There is still the open position of the President that needs to be filled. Please prayerful consider who would and could take on this needed position for W-ELCA. Following our short meeting Faith Thomas provided a few Christmas games, and Karen Linfor lead the group in singing a few Christmas carols. We ended the party with the very popular gift exchange (steal) event. A few presents may their rounds to a few people!! I believe everyone had a great time as we were able to come together again. Thank you to all who attended and made the afternoon fun.

Our mission support for the month in collaboration with Community Concern was the collection of \$5.00 gift certificated the were given to Union Gospel Mission and Loafs and Fishes, to be handed out to the homeless.

Please mark you calendars for the next and first meeting of the 2022 year on January, 8, 2022, at 11:30am in the Schultz Hall. Please bring a personal lunch to eat as we will discuss our Benevolence giving for 2022 and our Mission Gathering for each month in 2022.

Yours in Christ,
Marlene Kiser
WELCA President



Giving and Receiving & Sharing Fellowship





Thank you to all who helped decorate the Christmas Tree



November
2021

Finance Update

General Fund (Only) Contributions		
<i>(on-site worship services did not return until March 7, 2021)</i>		
Data	This Month	Year to Date
Total Contributions	\$11,050	\$142,360
Compared to Budget	-\$5,720	-\$24,040
	-34.1%	-14.4%
Compared to 2020	-\$7,155	-\$31,671
	-39.3%	-18.2%
No. of Contributors		
2021 (Current Year)	53	54 avg.
2020 (Last Year)	55	60 avg.
Other Contributions		
Memorials		\$50
Poinsettias		\$51
Thankoffering (W-ELCA ministries & missions)		

Note: Plus values are above Budget/Last Year; minus values are below.

Comments:

- A. November was a four-Sunday month.
- B. The figures clearly show the current deficiencies of St. Luke’s offerings.
- C. In January 2022, an annual contribution statement will be prepared and distributed for each 2021 contributor.
- D. If you have any question or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me..

Jack Fenske 916-714-3626
LRFenske@comcast.net
St. Luke’s Financial Secretary



Kathryn Felgenhauer	January 02
Darnell Osako	January 02
Craig Eckels	January 03
Jacob Kiser	January 03
Nick Moser	January 05
Pat Hamilton	January 06
Merle Zbrog	January 07
Lauren Orcutt	January 08
Sandra Mansfield	January 09
Karen Linfor	January 10
Deanna Dockter Jr.	January 13
Kayla King	January 16
Dennis Fischer	January 19
George Dorr	January 26
Jarrold Rowland	January 27
Amy Franklin	January 29
Bernie Johansen	January 30
Kirsten Ireton	January 31

Worship & Music Board

January, 2022

After being closed for most of 2020, it was so wonderful to be able to resume in-person worship in March of 2021. It was certainly a busy, and sometimes confusing, year getting everything in place for a “new normal.” And although some things are not back to what they used to be, still due to the Covid pandemic (masks are still required; communion continues to be served in individual cups; every other pew is blocked off, etc.), being able to worship in our beloved church is awe inspiring!

December, 2021, was particularly special: Celebrating the Birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Sanctuary was beautifully decorated, thanks to so many who participated! Many thanks to: Linda & Michael Duffek for donating the beautiful Christmas tree; the decorating crew: Bruce & Karen Kiser; Jeff Kiser; Jerry & Nancy Thomas; Susan Wessner; Karen Linfor; Kelly Boyer; Lois Sherrets; Peggy Moser; Marlene Kiser; and others I may have missed. A BIG thank you also to Jane Fanucci, our choir director; the choir members, Karen Linfor, Bob Behr, Faith Thomas, Gail Weber, Kelly Boyer, Suzanne Zemke, Barbara Manlapig, and Peggy Moser; and narrator, Phil Karlstad for the outstanding Cantata performed on December 19th. The choir put in many, many hours of practice for this performance, in addition to the music they perform each Sunday. (The Cantata has an updated link on the Church website with

As you know, it takes many people to help with worship services, and we are scheduling Worship Assistants for 2022. Please consider helping in the following areas: Scripture Reader; Prayer Leader; Usher; Acolyte; Greeter; and Altar Care. These positions are scheduled on a rotating basis. Your assistance is greatly appreciated! If possible, please sign up by January 9th.

Also, it's never too late to join the choir! Choir practice is on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, and there's a brief practice at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings. If you have a musical talent you would like to share, Jane is always looking for those to perform “special music” during services.

Wishing all a very Blessed 2022!

Shirley Prouty, Chair,





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